

May 17, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

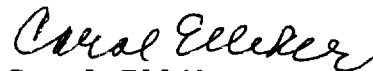
Re: Docket #98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing
and Handling of Food:

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly feel that the FDA should retain the current labeling law, the current terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation", and the use of the radura symbol on all irradiated foods. The labels should be on the front of the package and large enough to be readily visible by the consumer. All foods should be labeled. Misleading terms such as "electronic pasteurization" or "cold pasteurizaation" should not be allowed. The absence of a statement would be misleading and unfair to those of us who do not choose to select food that has been irradiated. I feel radiation destroys nutrients, creates changes in the quality of the food and is hazaardous to our health. We as consumers certainly have a right to know if the irradiation process has been used on our food.

Because of the newness of the technology, hazards involved in its use and the need to assess the public health effects of widespread use of irradiated foods, I believe that the FDA's labeling requirements should not be permitted to expire.

Sincerely,



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